Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 109337
ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 L-03 PA-01 PRS-01 USIE-00
SS-15 SP-02 INR-07 INRE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 CIAE-00
SSO-00 /046 R

DRAFTED BY EA/PHL:DPSULLIVAN:PAW
APPROVED BY EA:RBOAKLEY
EA/P:MSMITH (DRAFT)
----------132330Z 114471 /61
O 132117Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 109337

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, RP

SUBJECT: TRINIDAD HERRERA CASE - PRESS GUIDANCE

REF: STATE 107416

1. FOLLOWING IS TRANSCRIPT OF PORTIONS OF MAY 13 NOON BRIEFING DEALING WITH HERRERA CASE:

QUOTE QUESTION: DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THE RELEASE OF MRS. HERRERA?

ANSWER: YES, I DO. WE'VE BEEN INFORMED BY OUR EMBASSY IN MANILA THAT PRESIDENT MARCOS HAS ORDERED THE RELEASE OF MRS. HERRERA. I THINK WE TALKED ABOUT HER CASE BRIEFLY YESTERDAY.

QUOTE WE ARE PLEASED THAT SHE IS BEING RELEASED AND THAT
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 109337

THE INVESTIGATION INTO THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF HER DETENTION IS CONTINUING.

QUESTION: GETTING BACK TO THE LADY IN THE PHILIPPINES --

ANSWER: YES.

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

QUESTION: -- HOW DID WE FIND OUT THAT SHE WAS BEING RELEASED? DID THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT INFORM US OR WHAT?

ANSWER: I DON'T KNOW HOW THE FIRST REPORT OF -- EXCUSE ME: OF HER BEING RELEASED?

QUESTION: YES.

ANSWER: I DON'T KNOW HOW WE FOUND OUT ABOUT IT.

QUESTION: WELL --

ANSWER: ALL I HAVE IS THAT THE EMBASSY TOLD THE DEPARTMENT. WHETHER THEY LEARNED THAT FROM HER FAMILY OR FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PHILIPPINES, I DON'T KNOW.

QUESTION: WELL, DO YOU BELIEVE THAT THE EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST IN HER CASE AND CONCERN HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH HER BEING RELEASED BY PRESIDENT MARCOS?

ANSWER: ON BACKGROUND, I WOULD SUSPECT THAT IT DID. END BACKGROUND. I DO KNOW THAT WE WERE INVITED TO VISIT MRS. HERRERA IN THE REHABILITATION CENTER BY THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT AND I DID NOT HAVE THAT FACT IN MY POSSESSION YESTERDAY WHEN WE TALKED ABOUT THIS.

QUESTION: INVITED BY -- ?

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

ANSWER: THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT, TO COME SEE HER.

QUESTION: THE INVITATION COMING AFTER OUR EXPRESSION OF CONCERN ABOUT HER CASE?

ANSWER: I DON'T KNOW THE TIME SEQUENCE ON IT, BUT I DO KNOW THAT WE WERE INVITED TO COME TO THE REHABILITATION CENTER.

QUESTION: WHEN YOU SAID YESTERDAY THE CHARGE AT A HIGH LEVEL HAD EXPRESSED AMERICAN CONCERN OR INTEREST IN THIS CASE. THE INVITATION FOLLOWED THAT EXPRESSION, THAT AMERICAN INITIATIVE, DID IT?

ANSWER: HENRY, I'M NOT SURE WHAT THE TIME SEQUENCE WAS, BUT I DO KNOW THE INVITATION TO GO TO THE CENTER WAS EXTENDED BY THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT. I'M SORRY I CAN'T GIVE YOU THE TIME SEQUENCE. I SIMPLY DON'T KNOW.

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

QUESTION: YOU ALSO SAID YESTERDAY THAT TWO MEMBERS OF THE EMBASSY HAD SEEN HER AT THIS BICUTAN -- OR WHATEVER THE NAME IS?
ANSWER: RIGHT.

QUESTION: HOW SOON AFTER THEY WERE THERE DID THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCE THAT SHE WAS BEING RELEASED?

ANSWER: I DON'T KNOW. I DON'T HAVE THE TIME SEQUENCE ON IT.

QUESTION: YOU SAY HERE THAT WE'RE PLEASED THAT THE INVESTIGATION IS CONTINUING. CAN YOU TELL US ANYTHING ABOUT THE INVESTIGATION?

ANSWER: I CAN'T. I DON'T HAVE ANY INFORMATION ON THAT. I CAN'T GIVE YOU ANYTHING ON IT.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

QUESTION: DO YOU HAVE ANY MORE NEWS ABOUT THIS CASE YOU CAN GIVE US?

ANSWER: NO, I DON'T. THAT'S THE SUM TOTAL OF IT. END QUOTE.

2. WASHINGTON STAR MAY 13 CARRIES HENRY BRADSHER STORY UNDER TITLE "U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS EFFORTS BEAR FRUIT IN PHILIPPINES", WHICH ADVANCES THESIS THAT USG ACTION IN HERRERA CASE SHOWS "UNUSUAL NATURE" OF U.S.-PHILIPPINE RELATIONS. PHILIPPINE SENSITIVITY TO U.S. OPINION CONTRASTED WITH OTHER COUNTRIES WHICH "RESIST" EXPRESSIONS OF U.S. CONCERN ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS. TEXT BEING CARRIED ON WIRELESS FILE.

CHRISTOPHER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, INSTRUCTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE109337
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DPSULLIVAN:PAW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770169-1062
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770559/aaaabyyo.tel
Line Count: 156
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ac9aa494-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 107416
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2526477
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRINIDAD HERRERA CASE - PRESS GUIDANCE
TAGS: SHUM, RP, (HERRERA, TRINIDAD)
To: MANILA
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ac9aa494-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009